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CHRISTMAS. feathery flakes are dancing, dancing, In the gray morn's frostly gleam-Heralds they of reindeer prancing From the gardens of our dream-From the bright land of the Elf-Kirg, Where the bon bons gally grow Just like sweets of summer gardens, Where the tulips smile in rov/.

Feathery flakes are falling, falling, From the skies in softest v/ay: And between our voices calling: "Soon it will be Christmas Day!" Don't you know how in the springtime, Wintry snows are scattered wide Ere the lovely purple blossoms Dare to peep from where they hide?

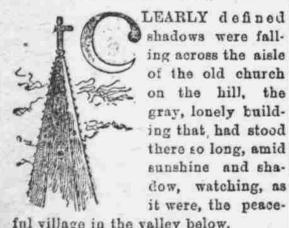
Feathery flakes ore s fling, sifting, Through the chill December air-Here, and there, and wonder drifting-Making everything more fair; Laying whiter folds than linen On the bouses and the trees Softer than the richest damask Spread our dainty guests to please.

soon the bon bons will be falling As the flakes have fall'n to-day, And the children will be calling To their patron saint so gay: "Ah! we knew when came the snowflakes You would come, dear Santa Claus-For we al * ays (you remember) Know the wind's way by the straws."

Soon the trees as fair as any That elves have wreathed with snow, Will be planted-O! so many! In our better homes. And lot Something better far than snowflakes Shall be hung abour their green-Candies, toys and fairy tapers Lighting up the merry scene.

And the children dancing, dancing, Tid all tired their little feet. Shall, with half-shut eyes up-glancing. Wonder: "Why is life so sweet?" And some tender voice shall whisper-Flake-like falling from above: "Christmas is so sweet, my darling

THE JOY OF MARGERETTA



on the hill, the gray, lonely building that had stood there so long, amid sunshine and shadow, watching, as it were, the peaceful village in the valley below.

Above it the pine trees, green even in winter, waved their long branches restlessly in the wind and flung their weird reflections over the snow, the white, soft snow, that covered all the hillside as with a mantle of palest vel

And the day was beginning to close in, to spread its gray wings over the dim sky and the snow-bound world, lightened only by the warm gleam that came from many a window in the village. The afternoons were short now, said the bustling frauen to each other, as they went about their work; but, alter all, was it not the eve of the Christmas feast, and what could one expect? So the cottages were warm and cozy, and the pine logs in the



THE FAMILY GATHERING tiled stoves crackled and burned away merrily, and few were the footsteps that passed over the snow ontside.

four, old Johann Maria entered the bing pain of some sorrowful dream. dimness of the church upon the hill, But he had begged her to forget-to where soft red lights shone like far- forget all the pain of parting for that away stars before the altar. There were one day. 'Let us be happy together, a few other dark figures already there, sweetheart," he had said, looking into oaken prie-dieu. But they looked up so much love and tenderness. as the old man came forward, and gathered together more closely. He would say the evening litany, perhaps, more to her than life itself, and they and they would join in the solemnly had been happy-perfectly, passionsweet responses, breathing in each ately happy-in their great, unfathheart the names of their dearly loved ones, and committing them to heaven's

safe keeping for the night. And old Johann Maris, as they had expected, kneeling in the soft halo of diamonds, flash on the dark waters that the lights made, began the old, of the Neckar: "What is love?" he sounded already some distance down old words that they knew so well, and had asked, and she had looked up to the hill. that they followed so earnestly, while the heautiful, grave face before she the wind wailed outside over the snow answered: on the steep white road. And Amalie and Dorchen and Aida, girls with fair holiest of friendships, my beloved. It the Fatherland in the sweet summer- another's being, and the living for an- into the night once more. They had joy. Was not to-morrow the feast of the unselfishness. It is something that She knew their sympathy and loved

already brought beautiful wreaths of is given by Him to us as the best gift berried holly and white-veined ivy- from His Heaven. It is holy, eternal, leaves to twine round the carved pul- ever-abiding, and it is ours, yours and pit and the choir-stalls? Yes, it was a mine-the most perfect union of time of joy and gladness, this Christ- hearts, my dearest one, in the tenmas season, and they were very, very | derest, truest sympathy." happy. Why not so? Every one was So she had spoken, as they went

the priest would pray and preach, and Neckar. they would all listen, oh! so intently. But now there was only the quietness of the little church, with its scent | seeing night; the words that he had of the freshly-cut boughs, and the quavering, monotonous voice Johann Maria repeating the old litany, as he had repeated it so many times before in the same place and in

There was another girl in the corner, kneeling at her pric-dieu, and told wonderful stories, and Amalie whispering the words of the sweet old and Dorchen sang tender love-lieder petitions with white lips and an aching heart. Christmas brought only sorrow for her, she said to herself. There morning, one scene more. The solloving voice to give her the Christmas with tears in his blue eyes, and pasgreeting, no tender lips to press her sionate pain drawing deep lines on his even at the season of universal love.

white snow; and while the others re- she had whispered of hope, of their her thoughts roamed back, pitilessly, that would bring them such joy at

It was Christmas time again, and the priest bad preached and prayed, and given the old beautiful benedicion, that floated out like a message from Heaven over the kneeling people -over her lover and herself.

Ah! her lover! He had been kneeling by her side then, with the lights flashing on his soldier's coat and his brave, handsome face, and sho had heard his voice throughout all the service, in ringing, clear tones that she knew and loved so well, so truly and passionately. And she had been so happy, so very very happy, although the thought of the morrow's parting had come even now As the clock in the tower chimed and then to her heart, with the throb-

> And she had obeyed him, as she always would obey the voice that was omable love.

> "What is love?" he said to her, as they walked home in the evening, watching the star gleams, like points

"Love is the most perfect and the great bunch of red holly-berries to tresses and eyes blue as the skies of means the merging of one's self into time, listened and prayed in all the other. It is based on sympathy, left her to her own thoughts, these fervor of youth and hopefulness and deepest and truest, and its keynote is happy girls, and she was glad of it. Christ-child. And had not the sacristan | cannot die. for it belongs to God. and | them for it. and they would be very

y and glad at Christmas time, when down the river-bordered road together, there where kuchen in the cottages, hand in hand, with the evening wind and little fir trees laden with presents, moaning among the pines, and the and sugar angels to be bought at the Christmas chimes ringing out from the shops or the market in the town yon- tower in the distance. And he had der, to remind them of the great stooped and kissed her, kissed her Christmas long ago, when the angels over and over again with burning sang over the star-lit fields at Bethle- kisses that lingered on her lips all through the long long aferwards, And by and by, that same evening, when they were parted by a darker, there would be a great service, when tide than even the swiftly flowing

That was her dream of Christmas -the tryst under the wings of the unsaid to her over and over again, "I of love you! I love you! I love you!" -words that she never, never tired of hearing, and that he never tired of saying; and afterwards the mirth and music of the family gathering in the warm homestead, where Johann Maria or wild ballads of the mountains. And in the faint grayness of the

was no gladness for her to expect, no dier in his travel-stained great coat, own in that love sweeter than others, pale face, and his love biding a last good-by, while the stars paled and No, all was dark and dreary-dreary | the tardy daylight struggled into the as the shadows that fell upon the cottage. And, with quivering lips, joiced and looked forward to keeping next meeting, of the brave deeds that the festival her heart was heavy and he was to do, of the patient waiting painfully, to a bygone day-a day last. And he knew that she was right, that was marked with the shadow of that his own heart told him the same story, while he kissed his dear, dear love over and over again, murmuring the "Auf wiedersehen" that he knew would bring her comfort. "My heart's beloved, God keep you," she said, brokenly, with her sweet arms, for the last time, clinging about his



neck, and her head pillowed on his strong shoulder.

And then she had raised her lips to his for the last, long kiss, and it was over with her heart's story, told in that one "Auf wiedersehen."

Ah! the peasant's litany was over, and the women had gone out softly, while the ripple of the girls' voices

Johann Marie had followed them,

and the sacristan had brought in a decorate the altar. And she must go, too, passing out

tender with her all through the feast, |

Even now, perhaps, Amalie was say- How to Make a Pretty Effect in the ing, "Ach! the poor Margaretta! Is it not two Christmas festivals since her lover died in the war?" And the ming the Christmas tree is to tack a

bending pine trees. Some one came | pler, cleaner and more effective. forward to meet her with a quick, glad | The newest conceits for tree decorait a dream as the thoughts in the bles, which are cunningly devised.

was calling her-all the old dear names | comes strongly to the fore. If there that she remembered so well; and his are electric lights in the house, an atkisses were burning once again on her | tachment is easily made, whereby the lips and brow, and his eyes were tell- tree can be lighted with tiny incandeing her all the love his loyal heart scent bulbs of different colors. In bore for her. He had come back to case the house is without electric her, to his Margaretta, back to his lights, a storage battery may be oblife's love, from the very gates of

hush of the evening, with her tired the old-time danger of the tree catchhead resting on his heart, they heard



the bells ring out for the eve of the festival-the festival of Perfect Love. his wanderings, of his supposed death, of his captivity and escape, and she listened, with her hands still locked in his and with her glad eyes fastened

thanks in the brightly lighted church on the hill, gay with holly and evergreen and the morrow's high holy day. And when the music ceased and the others want softly away, together they still knelt on, while each loving heart breathed its tender petition and whispered its thanks for the others' happiness. For the "Auf wiedersehen" had been spoken in truth, and they shall keep Christmas together .- The

Christmas of Childhood Days.

"My first thought of Christmas," says Lillie Devereux Blake, "is of the great playroom at my grandmother's, where we children gathered for our evening frolics; of the fun we had in the warmth and light, while sleet struck its icy fingers across the windows or the hoar frost covered the glass with fantastic lines of beauty; of the faces of those gathered there, so on Christmas morning oxen always young then, that are growing old now spend a portion of the time on their or have faded from this world forever. Then there comes a wider vision of the Christmas of the world, of the joy the ass which, a legend states, were bells ringing in many lands for the feast of love and good will, of the hearts made happy by the gifts, the there is hardly any being so forlorn that some ray of brightness does not reach him. Then yet again, and deeper, is the reflection of what the festival means. It is the celebration of the eternal miracle of maternity, the wonder of birth into the activities of this world, that has been in all ages and by all peoples observed at some period as an occasion for gladness; the welcome those already here give the new born soul to the brief, passionate years of human happiness and human despair that we call life."

Mother Gets Her Instructions, If you're waking, call me early,

Call me early, mother dear, For long before 'tis daylight In my stocking I would peer, If you're waking, call me early, Rouse me up at four o'clock: For I want to see what Santa Claus

Has put into my sock

DECORATING THE TREE.

Glowing Light.

others would look grave for a moment | square of crash to the floor under the and sigh a soft "Yes." Ah, it was tree. This saves the carpet from the true. Two long, dim years had passed drippings of numerous candles and away since the skirmishes on the the general debris which the dismanfrontier land, where, amid the dry tling of the tree invariably occasions. heather and the dead bracken, they The green tub, in which the tree had told her that her lover had died. should stand, supported by three But that was all. They knew not cross pieces of pine nailed to the edge where his body had been rested; they to hold it securely in place, is almost knew not whether he had suffered sure to be in the housewife's posses-

agony or had parted with his brave sion. Conceal this by a covering of soul in the heat of the battle. All was white cotton batting, dusted thickly vague, uncertain; only her lover was with coarsely powdered mica to regone from her-gone, gone, she knew semble snow, says the Philadelphia Press. Or cover it with imitation As she went down the hill road on green moss, which can be obtained at that Christmas Eve alone some one the shops at a trifling cost. The latter was waiting under the shadow of the | is really the better plan. It is sim-

cry of joy and heart's delight. Was tions are artificial fruits and vegetachurch yonder had been-a dream of | Tied to the tree with bright ribbons, Christmas, and of her love, her own, they form a pleasing contrast to the her life's love, but lost to her-lost? green foliage. Fairies, dressed in Nay, for a voice spoke to her, and wonderful gowns of bright colored dreams have no voices, they are silent paper, looped with narrow bebe riband sad; and this was a living, throb- | bon are bought at a low figure. Santa bing voice, full of passion and ten. Claus, who should, without fail, crown the top, is not an expensive addition.

"Heart's beloved! Sweet one!" he In lighting the tree, modern science tained at moderate cost. From this the same results are secured. This And, clasped to his breast, in the modern style of illumination removes ng fire from its lights, but it is also open to the objection of dispelling the romantic glow which came from innumerable candles. So the great majority of people still prefer the candles, which seem to be a part of the Yuletide.

For convenience in distributing the gifts, it is a good plan to place on each gift a number, while the mistress of the ceremonies keeps a written list of each member of the household, with their corresponding check. The distribution is usually made by the child or children for whose enjoyment the tree is arranged.

The Joys of Christmas.

One of the most blessed things about Christmas is that it makes so many people feel young, writes Edward W. By-and-by he told her the story of Bok, in Ladies' Home Journal. It is the one season of the year when everybody feels that they can dismiss abstruse thoughts, put dignity aside, forget the worries of the world, and for a time return to their youth. It And at the service time they returned always seems a pity that men try to conceal this feeling so often at Christmas. Only a few men are capable of being gracefully caught in the act of making a miniature train of cars go over the carpet. Catch them at it a night or two before Christmas, and nine out of every ten will instantly get up from the carpet, brush the dust from the knees of their trousers -for dust will get on the carpets of the best regulated homes-and immediately begin to apologize. I have often wondered why men resent being caught in this way. But a woman feels differently, and it is a blessed thing that she does.

Superstitions of Christmas,

The superstitions of Christmas are more numerous even than the observances which owe their origin to heathenish rites. Among certain European peasants the belief still prevails that knees. This they do, according to the peasants, in imitation of the ox and present at the manger and knelt when Christ was born.

In certain counties of England the announced to shepherds. Bees are also said to sing in their hives on the night before Christmas, and bread baked at that time never becomes mouldy-at least so once thought many English housewiv_

The Epicure's Bird,

The eagle has the laugh on the turkey at Christmas time. - Philadelphia

"Sometimes," said Uncle Eben, "de houses dat has de bigges' fam'lies an' de littles' tuhkey seems ter hab de mos' Christmas in 'em."-Washington

The Goose-"What's the difference between the Easter gift and the Christmas turkey?" The Turkey-"I dunno." The Goose-"Why, one is dressed to kill and the other is killed to dress."

DECEMBER CROP ESTIMATE. Cotton Figures - North Carolina's

Showing-Other Statistics. The December returns to the statistical di-The first step in the work of trimvision of the Department of Agriculture shows a considerable improvement in the condition of the cotton crop as campared with the Department's last report. _This applies especially to North Carolina, Florida and Georgia, where the conditions have been favorable to the maturity of the top crop. Many reports say the yield has exceeded expectations, owing to the large acreage of this year, and the late and dry fall favoring the maturation of late crop. Frosts are reported to have done some damage to the top crop in Arkansas, Louislana, Miss-issippi and Texas. The weather as a general thing has been exceptional for gathering crops. The following is the reported yield States, as compared with last year: Alahama, 116: Arkansas, 112; Florida, 110; Georgia, 110; Indian Territory 118; Louisi-ana, 126; Miscissippi, 112; Miscouri, 110; North Carolina, 109; Oklahoma, 130; South Carolina, 105; Tennessee, 113; Texas, 123; Virginia, 118. The general average is 116 2. The Department's final estimate of the crop of 1895, based on complete and revised

as follows: Alabama, 663,916; Arkausas, 520,860; Florida, 38,722; Georgia, 1,067,377; Indian Territory, 68,668; Kansas, 152; Louisiana, 513,843; Mississippl, 1,013,328; Missouri, 11,816; North Carolina, 14,103; South Carolina, 764,700; Tennessee, 172,560; Texas, 1,905,307; Utab. 104, and Virginia 7,364 bales. Total crop, 7,161,094 bales. The returns to the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, for the month of December, relate chiefly to the average farm price of the various farm products of agriculture on the first day of the month. The farm price of corn, as indicated, averages 21.4 against 25.3 cents last year; average price of wheat is 72.7 against 50.9 last year; of rye, 40.3, against 44 last year; of oats, 18.6, against 19.9 last year; of buckwheat, 39.1, against 45.2 last year; of Irish potatoes, 28.7, against 26.6 last year; leaf tobacco, per pound, 6.0 cents, against 6.9 last year; hay,

reports of the movement from each State, is

per ton, \$6.54, against \$8.35 last year; cotton, 6.6 cents, against 7.6 last year. The condition of winter wheat on December 1 averaged for the country, 99.5 per cent., against 81.4 in 1895; 89 in 1894 and 91.5 in In the principal winter wheat States the

percentages are as follows: Ohio, 101; Michi-

gan, 90; Indiana, 100; Illinois, 99; Missouri, 101; Kansas, 103; Nebraska, 93; California, The returns make the acreage of winter wheat just sown 105.2 per cent. of the area harvested in 1896. This estimate, which is June next, makes the area sown for the har-

est of 1897, 23,986,470 acres. Conditions for fall wheat seeding throughout Europe, except in France and Southern Russia, reported generally favorable.
Increase in acreage probably nct great.

CLEVELAND'S FUTURE.

Pennsylvania Railroad Will Put On a Fast Flyer to Accommodate Him. Grover Cleveland's plans for the future when he retires from office and enters private life egain have been settled definitely. Contrary to the reports, he will not give up his law profession, but will resume the practice of it soon after he leaves the White House. For some time it has been known among is more intimate friends that he has accepted the offer of a well-known New York firm to act as its consulting member, and that his name will become identified with it soon after March 4.

A queer thing in this connection is that that great corporation, the Pennsylvania railroad, is to put on an extra fast train just as soon as Cleveland takes up his residence in Princeton. This train will pass through Princeton Junction in the morning and will leave New York in the afternoon early enough to land the ex-President in Princeton in time for dinner. Just why a new train is necesary is not clear. There is a fast train now which leaves Princeton Junction at about ! clock in the morning and reaches Jersey City shortly before 11. In the afternoon the Fast Flying Virginian, one of the best trains in the Pennsylvania system, leaves Jersey City between 4 and 5 clock and reaches Princeton an hour and a half later. But there will be a new fast train just the same, One of the chief reasons in selecting Princetou as their future home was its nearness to New York and the railroad facilities

for reaching it. This fact, coupled with Mrs. Cleveland's preference for the town, decided he President in its favor. Cleveland's migratory habit has been far n' re pronounced than is usual among the Presidents. For the last twelve years his official life has run in periods of four years,

and for every four of his natural 60 years he has had a new abiding place. That is the way his migrations average. If three removes are equal to a fire, according to the old saw, then he has had the equivalent of at least five fires.

The Committee Named.

In accordance with the instructions of the Republican caucus Senator Sherman has named the following Senators as the special committee of five to device legislation for action by this session of Congress looking to an international monetary conference: Wal-cott, chairman; Hoar, Chandler, Carter, Gear. This is regarded a conservative committee with a majority friendly to international bimetallism. A canvas has been made among the Democrats, and Republicans say they have enough votes in sight to pass a bill in the interest of international bi-metallism

Small Pox and Yellow Fever.

The Marine Hospital Service at Washingon has received reports of small-pox and vellow fever in the C:ban seaports. The United States sanitary inspector at Havana reports 220 new cases and 87 deaths from yelow feve and 54 deaths from small-pox during the week ended November 26. Eighty-three of the 87 deaths from yellow fever during the week ended November 26, were among Spanish soldiers in military hospitals, In the eight government military hospitals in the city and suburbs there are over 10,000 sick and wounded Spanish soldiers.

To Reduce the Acreage.

The Augusta Chronicle says: "Texas cotton planters are taking steps to bring about kindliness, the good cheer that brings idea prevails that sheep walk in pro- a reduction of the cotton acreage throughout memoration of the glad tidings first ing secretary of the Farmer's Club, Thornton, Tex., requests farmers throughout the South to organize farmers' clubs. He solicits correspondence. A general reduction of the next cotton crop can be brought about by co-operation. If this is done better prices will prevail. The planters of the South should raise their own food supplies. Cotton will then be certain to command higher prices. By making cotton a surplus crop Southern farmers can become prosperous. In that event they would become flually indepen-

Methodist Prize it Highly.

An original copy of the first printed "rules for the society of the people called Methodists" has been unearthed at St. Louis, Mo. ard as it was published by John and Charles Wesley over their own signatures, in 1743, and contains the first neuclus of the literature of the Methodist church, which now nubers over 6,000,000 members in the United States, worshipping in 53,000 religious edifices of their own. It is a most interesting document, not only to followers of that faith, but to students of religious history. The circular is of four pages, and is falling to pieces with age and handling. This paper is yellow and the print unreadable in places com the stains of time.

GOVERNMENT EXPENSE.

Secretary Carlisle Transmits the Bill to the House of Representatives.

Secretary Carlisle has transmitted to the Speaker of the Heuse of Representatives the estimates of appropriations required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893. They are recapitulated by the titles as follows, cents being omitted:

Legislative establishment, \$4,879,820; executive establishment, \$19,865,952; judicial establishment, \$907,120; foreign intercourse, \$2,082,728; military establishment, \$24,292,-636; naval establishment, \$32,434,778; Indiau affairs, \$7,279,525; pensions, \$141,328,580; public works, \$31,437,061; postal service, \$1. 288,834; miscellaneous, \$36,844,216; permanent annual appropriations, \$120,078,220. Totals,\$421,718,965.

For improvements at the navy yard at Nor-folk, Va., \$370,000 is asked. The total estimates for fortifications and other works of defense is \$15,815,256.

Appropriations under recent acts are asked for as follows: For the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park, \$145,000; Gettysburg National Park, \$75,000, and \$87,000 for the Shileh National Mili ary Park.
Under the act of Jane 3, 1896, appropriations are requested for river and harbors in-

Improving harbor at Savannah, Ga., \$400,000; improving Cumberland Sound, Ga., and Florida, \$400,000; improving harbor at Galveston, Tex.. \$800,000; ship channel connecting the great takes between Chicago and

Duluth and Buffalo, \$1,090 000.

The estimates for the army and navy pensions aggregate \$140, 00,000. There is also an appropriation of \$350,000 asked for to enable the United States government to take part in the international ex-

position to be held in Paris in 1900. Other appropriations are requested as follows: For the establishment of auxiliary fish cultural stations on the St. John's, Fia., \$20,000; for the re-coinage of uncurrent silver coins, \$250,000; for payments of salaries, fees and expenses of United States marshals and their deputies, \$1,200,000; for special experimental work in balooning house for the signal corps, \$10,000.

HUNDREDS COMING SOUTH.

They Are to Settle in the Southern Colony, Near Sibley, Ga.

A special from Superior, Wis., says the exodus of families from this section of the country to what is termed "The Fruit Belt" of Georgia, is beginning to attract considerable attention. It is estimated that already 150 families have disposed of their belongings In this city and Duluth and taken tracts of land in the South, mostly in the vicinity of Sibley, Ga., where there is quite a colony of

Many of these people go down without a dollar in the world after paying the freight on their household goods, and there are many others who have a comfortable surplus left to begin work on. Immigration com-panies backed by the Southern railroads, have been doing missionary work in this section for a year, and claim to now have their colonization matter fairly started. One of these companies has thirteen thousand acres of land near Sibley and is selling it at the rate of \$5 per acre. It is guaranteed to raise whatever any farm in the United States will produce and independent incomes are guaranteed as well after a few years. Since some companies have been successful, others have been formed. Agencies are being established at points in eastern Minnesota and northwestern Wiscopsin. They are meeting with unexpected success.

TALMAGE TO WED.

The Bride Will be Miss Susie Mangum, of Sing Sing, New York.

In Sing Sing, New York, the engagement of Miss Susie Mangum, of that village, to the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, of Washington, has

Miss Mangum is a daughter of Daniel D Mangum, a grain dealer in New York (ity, living in Sing Sing. Mr. Mangum is reputed to be a millionaire. Miss Mangum has been a popular young society woman in Sing Sing society. Daniel D. Mangum Jr., brother of the future Mrs. Talmage, two years ago mairied Mr. Talmage's daughter. This will make Mrs. Mangum, after her marriage, the step-mother of her sister-in-law and stepmother-in-law to her own brother. Dr. Talmage his daughter's brother-in-law.

The date of the wedding is not announced. but the preparations are under way and it is thought it will take place in holiday week or shortly after the new year begins.

Scott Jackson Must Die.

The Court of Appeals han affirmed the sentence of death pronounced against Scot Jackson, at Covington, Ky., for the murder of Pearl Bryan. The Governor will fix the date of execution. The decision was presented by Associate Judge Hazleringg. The case came before the Court of Appeals on an appeal from the Campbell County Circuit Court and the decision is thought to mean the same result later on, in the appeal of Alonzo Walling, sentenced to death as Jack

Washington Happenings.

Mr. S. W. Woodward has declined appoint ment as chairman of the committee of ar-rangements for President McKinley's inauguration, and Mr. C. J. Bell, president of the American Security and Trust Company, of Washington, has been tendered and has accepted the honor. General Horace Porter, of New York, has been appointed marshal for the inaugural parade.

Secretary Olney has received a cablegram from Senor Andrade, the Venezuelan Minister to Washington, who is now in Caracas, stating that the Venszuelan government has accepted the agreement reached by the United States and Great Britain for the arbitration of the boundary dispute, and that an extra session of the Venezuelan Congress has been called to consider the treaty.

Information has been received here that Ambassador Bayard has declined with many hanks the proposed testimonial which the London Telegraph suggested should be raised by popular subscription in England as a mark of appreciation of his efforts to preserve good will between the two countries. Mr. Bayard takes the ground that his position as ambaseador would prevent his accepting any gi't of the kind proposed. This is in accord with the views which the State Department held of Mr. Bayard's probable action in the matter.

Bryan's Date Changed.

Mr. Wm. J. Bryan has consented to change the opening date of his lecture in Atlanta, Ga., to December 22d, instead of January 5th, as previously arranged. This will give the country people a better advantage to hear the lecture, because they will be in the city at-tending to their holiday shopping. After lecturing here Mr. Bryan will return to his home and remain until January 10th, when he will resume his tour, taking in the principal cities of the South. Among those included

are Charlotte, N. C., and Columbia, S. C. Conaty Succeeds Keane.

A dispatch from Baltimere, M. D., says Cardinal Gibbons is in receipt of an official letter from the Pope informing him that the Pope has appointed Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, D. D., of Worchester, Mass., rector of the Catholic University at Washington, D. C., to succeed Right Rev. Bishop Keans